

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of customizing a rule-based application, the method comprising:
designating a customizable element of a set as a customizable template; **and**
compiling said customizable element into at least one object to form a ruleset;
and
parsing said set to detect said customizable element designated as a
customizable template.
2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said set comprises a ruleset.
3. (Cancelled)
4. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising customizing said element.
5. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said element comprises a variable.
6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said element comprises a rule.
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said element comprises a ruleset.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising designating a ruleset of said set as a customizable ruleset template.
9. (Original) The method of claim 8, further comprising generating a customized ruleset from the customizable ruleset template.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising enabling customization in a deployment environment.

11. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising enabling customization in a development environment.

12. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising re-editing a previously generated rule.

13. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein a new ruleset is generated from a customizable ruleset template, and a pre-existing customizable rule template is associated with said new ruleset and is unchanged.

14. (Currently Amended) A system for customizing a rule-based application, the system comprising:

means for designating a customizable element of a set as a customizable template; and

means for compiling said customizable element into at least one object to form a ruleset; and

means for parsing said set to detect said customizable element designated as a customizable template.

15. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein said set comprises a ruleset.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Original) The system of claim 14, further comprising means for customizing said element.

18. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein said element comprises a variable.

19. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein said element comprises a rule.

20. (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein said element comprises a ruleset.

21. (Original) The system of claim 14, further comprising means for designating a ruleset of said set as a customizable ruleset template.
22. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 21, further comprising means for generating a customized ruleset from said customizable ruleset template.
23. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14, further comprising means for enabling customization in a deployment environment.
24. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14, further comprising means for enabling customization in a development environment.
25. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 14, further comprising means for re-editing a previously generated rule.
26. (Currently Amended) A computer-readable media for storing software instructions for customizing a rule-based application, which when executed by a processor perform the steps of:
designating a customizable element of a set as a customizable template; and
compiling said customizable element into at least one object to form a ruleset;
and
parsing said set to detect said customizable element designated as a customizable template.
27. (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 26, wherein said set comprises a ruleset.
28. (Cancelled)

29. (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 26, wherein said instructions further performing the step of customizing said element.

30. (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 26, wherein said instructions further performing the step of designating a ruleset of said set as a customizable ruleset template.

31. (Original) The computer-readable media of claim 30, wherein said instructions further performing the step of generating a customized ruleset from the customizable ruleset template.